[25th July 1964

THE HON. SRI V. RAMAIAH : Mr. Speaker, Sir, in Fasli 1373, as the north-east monsoon was late by a month, the seasonal conditions were not favourable in the main taluks of Tirupattur and Sivaganga and the sub-taluk of Karaikudi, Manamadurai and Devakottai of Ramanathapuram District. Special remission was granted for wet crops up to and inclusive of four annas yield in those taluks. Seasonal remission was also granted, under B.S.O. 13, for the eligible cases in six villages in Kamudi sub-taluk. The number of villages affected in Tirupattur taluk was 32 in Karaikudi sub-taluk, 30 in Sivaganga taluk, 46 in Manamadurai sub-taluk and in Devakottai sub-taluk 17. The toal amount of remission granted in these taluks is Rs. 4,27,332·58. The Collector of Ramanathapuram has reported that it is incorrect to say that there was widespread calamity during fasli 1373 in East Ramanathapuram District or famine conditions existed.

The Collector of Ramanathapuram has reported that in East Ramanathapuram District as against the total demand of Rs. 1,39,76,476 including arrears under Land Revenue, an amount of Rs. 60,47,357 has been collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 79,29,119 and as against a total demand of Rs. 1,13,48,282 including arrears under loans an amount of Rs. 38,35,697 has been collected, leaving a balance of Rs. 75,12,585. The collection is just a little over the demand for one Fasli. The poor collection shows that the ryots are not being harassed by the Revenue authorities. The Collector has reported that the Revenue authorities have scrupulously avoided coercive processes, particularly in distraining bulls and kitchen articles in the case of poor ryots whose lands have been left fallow due to adverse seasonal conditions or where the crop prospects are poor due to late commencement of rains.

I may, therefore, assure the hon. Member that compulsory collection of tax and loan arrears in East Ramanathapuram District has not been resorted to and that due consideration is shown in deserving cases.

III. PRIVILEGE MATTER

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES ON "TAMIL SEITHI" CASE—PRESENTATION

SRI K. PARTHASARATHY : Sir, I, the Chairman of the Committee of Privileges, present the Report of the Committee of Privileges on 'Tamil Seithi' case.

IV. GOVERNMENT MOTION

CHANGE IN THE ORDER OF BUSINESS.

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I move—

'That Item IV (1) viz., The Travancore-Cochin Lime shells (Control) Repeal Bill, 1964, be taken up before Item III in the agenda.'

The motion was put and carried.